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within a truly blighted area of the city, and that these...the adoption of LB 888 would not in any way serve as a "discentive" to undertake renovation projects within these areas. We must do more to promote activity, construction activities in this area, and we do not want to provide motivating...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: ...reasons to not undertake such activities within these areas, particularly in southeast and northeast Omaha, as far as the Omaha area is concerned, and in other cities across the state as well. We want to provide incentives to undertake these projects, incentives to rehab old buildings within our towns, and we do not want to provide a "discentive." And I can appreciate the concerns with regard to long-term impact of energy efficiency. But we do want to be practical about it, and we want to proceed with a perspective of balance in terms of balancing our need for construction projects in our blighted areas of town against the need, and I appreciate the need, for efficiency standards. With that, Senator Bromm, thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there was something said during the last exchange between Senator Synowiecki and Senator Friend that puts me in a position of uncertainty. I would like to ask a question of Senator Friend.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Friend, would you yield, please?

SENATOR FRIEND: Yes, I will.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Friend, your bill, as it exists now, strikes a blanket exemption that exists without your bill for so-called blighted areas. Let me take...let me back up. Right now there is a blanket exemption for blighted areas from responding to the energy code.